

**William Fairfax to George Washington, May 6, 1757,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
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FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQ.

WMBURG 6. May 1757.

DR SIR

Capt. Gist tells Me You was unwilling to write as You could Not avoid touching on a Subject that must have lately greatly afflicted Me: And indeed I have been so for near a Week, when submitting to the Apprehension of Bryan being no more in Life and reduced so by the most deplorable & shocking Case, I recd a Letter from Him dated at Annapolis certifying that He was taken up, examin'd and having no Pass was comitted as one Wm. Fisher. On the usual Fare among Felons, Runaways, Deserters &c He was Sensible of his Condition and writes to Me by the Post wch. Mr Carlyle seeing at Alexandria, suspected the hand Writing, opened and found it to be from lost Bryan; next Day sets off for Annapolis to redeem the Captive, and sent Me Bryan's Letter to the great Relief of my Mind. Thus You will observe how a Youth endeavouring to go from Himself is capable of distressing his affecte. kindred. I guess Bryan after being twice refused in his Love Addresses had formed the Resolution to throw himself as a private Centinel in some of the Noern Regulars, and as such to be Conceald. I hope He will return compos'd wth. Mr. Carlyle, and submit to God's Disposal and the best Manner We can assist. I expect to Set off homewards with G Fx & Dame on Thursday next.

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Capt. Gist tells Me that He is dischargd as a Captain from your Regiment Wch I did not before know. He has hopes of being some Way employd by Mr Atkins and says the Governor has desird You to recomend Him accordingly. I have joynd in it and shall be glad Mr Gist can get any comfortable Support. It begins to grow Dark and I must conclude With wishing You every desirable Happiness as Dr Sr Yr affect &c

W. FAIRFAX